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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/883,779

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Daniel T. Johnson

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EXAMINER

POINVIL, FRANTZY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3692

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/05/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/883,779	JOHNSON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Frantzy Poinvil	3692	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13, 14, 16-45 and 49-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13, 14, 16-45 and 49-59 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 13 improperly depends on canceled claim 12. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1- 4, 6-9, 13,14, 16-17, 20-28, 30, 31, 33-38 and 49-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Suhy, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 7,062,446).

As per claims 1- 4, 6-9, 13,14, 16-17, 20-28, 30, 31, 33-38 and 49-52, Suhy, Jr. et al disclose a system and method for managing an enterprise's assets. In so doing, Suhy, Jr. et al teach a system for managing a plurality of assets such as truck equipment of one or more enterprises and allowing a user to access asset information related to the truck equipment . See the abstract. Suhy, Jr. et al. also disclose a central processor, a database for storing and tracking asset information for each of the plurality

Art Unit: 3692

of assets of the enterprise, the database in communication with the central processor, wherein each of the plurality of assets is a piece of equipment, and further wherein the asset information comprises information relating to ownership, maintenance and repair of the pieces of equipment; wherein the central processor tracks information relevant to managing each of the assets. Suhy, Jr. et al also teach providing various types of asset identifiers to identify and monitor the assets of the enterprise. Applicant is directed to the abstract, figure 3 and column 7, line 1 to column 8, line 8 of Suhy, Jr. et al.

Suhy, Jr., et al further teach obtaining and maintaining warranty coverage information for all assets and scheduling maintenance and/or repairs. See column 1, line 62 to column 2, line 18.

Suhy, Jr. et al further teach the central processor includes a website hosted by at least one computer in communication with a computer network through a communication link (see figure 3 of Suhy, Jr. et al.)

Suhy, Jr. et al. also teach the teach a client processor in communication with the central processor through the communication link. See also figure 3 of Suhy, Jr. et al. The database stores asset information in the form of pages which in turn link to other pages. See column 7, lines 1-64 of Suhy, Jr. et al.

Suhy, Jr. et al further teach the client processor inputs, queries, and downloads asset information from the central processor through a web site. See columns 7 and 8 of Suhy, Jr. et al.

Art Unit: 3692

Suhy, Jr. et al. also teach the database includes at least one database server in a communication with a computer network, and the user is an agent of the enterprise.

See columns 7 and 8 and figure 3 of Suhy, Jr. et al.

Suhy, Jr. et al. further teach different types of personnel having different access levels and users' roles or rights may access information related to an asset type. See column 7, line 50 to column 8, line 8, thus providing limit access to a user's request.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10, 29 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suhy, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 7,062,446).

As per claims 10 and 32, the teachings of Suhy, Jr. et al are discussed above. Suhy et al. do not explicitly teach the central processor is programmed with code for generating a GIS map locating one of the plurality of enterprise assets. As per this feature, the enterprise or financial system discussed in Suhy, Jr. et al may possess a plurality of different types of assets located in different geographic locations. Using a GIS map for locating the location of automobiles, vehicles or trains is well known in the art at the time of the applicant's invention. If the assets are the like of ambulances, then it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to use a GIS map in the system of Suhy, Jr. et al. for locating assets if the enterprises own assets such as vehicles or transportation assets so as to be informed of their location and conditions so as to better assess the total costs or values of all assets owned by the enterprise.

As per claim 29, Suhy, Jr. et al do not explicitly state the client processor is a kiosk located at an enterprise site. The Examiner notes that Suhy, Jr. et al provide various client computers for connecting to the central processor. One of the client computers being a kiosk in the system of Suhy, Jr. et al would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to introduce therein in order to provide easy and fast access of the various equipment to a client on the floor at warehouse or factory of the enterprise.

4. Claims 5, 11, 18, 19, 39-45 and 53-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suhy, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 7,062,446) as applied to claim 1 in view of Dilger, Karen Abramic (Asset management, maintenance redefined), Manufacturing Systems, v15n7, pp. 122-128, July 1997, CODEN: MASYES< ISSN: 0748-948X, JRNL CODE: MF'S, Dialog file 15, Accession No. 01493159.

As per claims 5, 11, 18, 19, 39-45 and 54-58, the teachings of Suhy, Jr. et al are discussed above. Suhy, Jr. et al do not explicitly state determining an appropriate service provider for a particular asset and alerting the service provider of a service request. Dilger discusses many asset management systems wherein a central database stores information on various assets held by an organization. Users of the

Art Unit: 3692

organization access a website hosted by at least one server and transmit a service request to the server. See pages 3-7 of the reference. Since the Internet is used for communication purposes, providing an Email message would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to do for simplicity and as an available communication means of communicating related messages to suppliers, manufacturers and technicians. Thus, Dilger discusses receiving a service request at the website for an asset. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Suhy, Jr. et al with Dilger so as allow access to the system using web browsing techniques in order to allow users to access the system from anywhere.

Claims 53 and 59 recite limitations found in claims 1, 5 and 11, and these limitations are rejected under a similar rationale.

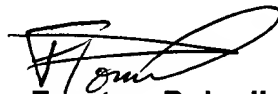
Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantzy Poinvil whose telephone number is (571) 272-6797. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00AM to 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Kramer can be reached on (571) 272-6783. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3692

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Frantzy Poinvil
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3692

FP

June 22, 2007